

FASAB NEWSLETTER August-September 2022

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Current Board Projects

(For more information, click on the title of the project to be directed to the related active project page.)

Intangible Assets

Software Technology: Cloud-Service Arrangements

During the August meeting, staff presented an issues paper to the Board that discussed a framework of cloud-service arrangements that could meet the essential characteristics of an asset for financial reporting purposes along with potential benefits and challenges of reporting cloud service arrangements as assets in federal financial reports. Members generally agreed with staff's recommendations and requested further research and deliberation on the potential benefits of reporting cloud-service arrangements and whether the arrangements are typical service contracts or if they are more akin to leases or right-to-use assets.

Staff will continue to research and engage with the working group to provide the Board with relevant information so that the Board can continue to fine-tune a scope and framework for cloud-service arrangement reporting guidance.

Visit the intangible assets project page to learn more.

Point of Contact: Josh R. Williams, 202-512-4051, williamsjr@fasab.gov

Leases

Leases Omnibus

At the August meeting, the Board discussed comment letters on the exposure draft (ED) *Omnibus Amendments: Technical Clarifications Addressing Lessee and Lessor Discount Rates and Sale-Leasebacks*.

The Board tentatively decided to address a technical issue identified by a respondent related to lease term under paragraph 19.b of Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) 54, *Leases*, subject to additional consultations with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) staff. The Board will continue deliberating this issue at its December 2022 meeting. FASAB staff will provide updates to the Board on its consultations with GASB staff at that time.

The Board tentatively agreed to other changes identified by staff in response to comment letters. Members discussed and agreed upon improvements to the draft basis for conclusions during the meeting.

<u>Intragovernmental Leases-Related Reimbursable Work Agreements</u>

At the August meeting, the Board completed pre-exposure deliberations. On September 19, FASAB staff released an ED Technical Bulletin, *Intragovernmental Leasehold Reimbursable Work Agreements*, for public comment.

The ED proposal is intended to further explain and address accounting issues not directly covered under SFFAS 54 and other relevant Statements.

The Board requests comments by November 4, 2022. Respondents are encouraged to provide the reasons for their positions. The ED, along with specific questions for respondents, is available on the FASAB website.

Visit the leases project page to learn more.

Point of Contact: Ricky A. Perry, Jr., perryra@fasab.gov, 202-512-5720

Reporting Model

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)

During the August meeting, members reviewed and edited the proposed standards in *Presenting Information in MD&A* and *Information Discussed and Analyzed in MD&A*.

Visit the mangement's discussion and analysis project page to learn more about the Board's intent for these proposed requirements.

Point of Contact: Robin Gilliam, 202-512-7356, gilliamr@fasab.gov

Review of SFFAS 38 Reporting Requirements

During the August meeting, the members discussed the pre-research topic, review of SFFAS 38 reporting requirements. SFFAS 38, *Accounting for Federal Oil and Gas Resources*, requires the reporting of the value of the federal government's estimated royalties and other revenue from the production of federal oil and gas reserves, and Technical Bulletin (TB) 2011-1, *Accounting for Federal Natural Resources Other Than Oil and Gas*, applies the requirements in SFFAS 38 to other federal natural resources that are under lease, contract, or other long-term agreement. When SFFAS 38 and TB 2011-1 were issued, it was the Board's intent that the requirements would transition to basic after three years as RSI. Prior to the end of the three-year RSI period, the Board planned to decide whether the information would transition to basic as financial statement recognition or note disclosure or if the information should stay in RSI. It has been nine years since SFFAS 38 became effective, and the Board's determination was needed to establish the reporting requirements.

It was pointed out that the language related to transition from RSI to basic is in the authoritative standards section of SFFAS 38 and not in the basis for conclusions section. As such, Board action, either by concluding that the current requirements remain as RSI or the information transition to basic, should occur.

Members agreed unanimously to leave the oil and gas information in RSI and not continue researching the topic.

Members agreed to amend SFFAS 38 through an omnibus SFFAS to conclude the open-ended proposal in the next fiscal year. TB 2011-1, which extended SFFAS 38 requirements to non-renewable natural resources, will also be amended accordingly.

Staff will draft the amendments to SFFAS 38 and TB 2011-1 through an omnibus proposal and present it to the Board sometime in the next several months.

Visit the natural resources project page to learn more.

Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee

Technical Guidance Update: Conforming Amendments of Technical Releases

The AAPC issued Federal Financial Accounting Technical Release (TR) 21, *Omnibus Technical Release Amendments 2022: Conforming Amendments* on September 6, 2022. FASAB issued several pronouncements that required updates to TRs. TR 21 provides conforming amendments to previously issued TRs to ensure the TRs are consistent with GAAP. Specifically, TR 21 provides conforming amendments to the following:

- TR 10, Implementation Guidance on Asbestos Cleanup Costs Associated with Facilities and Installed Equipment
- TR 11, Implementation Guidance on Cleanup Costs Associated with Equipment

- TR 14, Implementation Guidance on the Accounting for the Disposal of General Property, Plant & Equipment
- TR 20, Implementation Guidance for Leases

TR 21 is available at https://fasab.gov/accounting-standards/.

Visit the AAPC's technical guidance update: conforming amendments of technical releases project page to learn more.

Point of Contact: Melissa Batchelor, 202-512-5976, batchelorm@fasab.gov

November AAPC Meeting Canceled

The AAPC meeting scheduled for November 16, 2022, has been canceled.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2023.

The AAPC Welcomes New Member Alvin Brown

Mr. Brown has served over 37 years in the federal Office of Inspector General (OIG) community. Mr. Brown has been a member of the Senior Executive Service for 18 of the 37 years. Mr. Brown currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Office of Inspector General. In this role, Mr. Brown is responsible for supervising all mandated financial, financial related, and information technology audit activities of the foreign assistance programs administered by USAID, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Inter-America Foundation, and the U.S. African Development Foundation. In his previous position, Mr. Brown was also the Assistant Inspector General for the Millennium Challenge Corporation for five years. In this role, he was responsible for all audit and investigative activities of the foreign assistance programs administered by the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Mr. Brown has also served on the Board of Directors for the International Consortium of Governmental Financial Management since 2012.

Before joining USAID, Mr. Brown was an Auditor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Inspector General in the Washington, D.C. Headquarters office. Mr. Brown graduated from Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA in 1980.

Until further notice, FASAB and AAPC meetings will be held via Zoom for Government. The login information is available on the agenda. No preregistration is required to observe virtual meetings.

FASAB Meeting Schedule

2022 October 25-26 December 13-14

2023 February 22-23 April 18-19 June 13-14 August 16-17 October 17-18 December 12-13

Agendas and briefing materials are available at https://www.fasab.gov/briefing-materials/ approximately one week before the meetings. Agendas include login information for those interested in observing the meetings.

AAPC Meeting Schedule

2023 February 1 May 10 August 2 November 16

Agendas are available at https://fasab.gov/about-aapc/aapc-meetings/ approximately one week before the meetings. Agendas include login information for those interested in observing the meetings.

Security Notice for In-Person Meetings

FASAB and AAPC meetings will be held via Zoom for Government until further notice. No pre-registration is required for virtual meetings.

When in-person meetings resume and you wish to attend, please pre-register on our website at https://www.fasab.gov/pre-registration/ no later than 5 p.m. the Friday before the meeting to be observed. GAO, which provides space for our meetings, has increased its security procedures, and your name must be provided in advance to the GAO security force before you can enter the building. When you arrive, please

advise the security officer that you are attending either a FASAB or an AAPC meeting. Doing so will assist the officer in locating the correct security list. Thank you.